

Graduates join Iraqi Police Service ranks



U.S. Ambassador L. Paul Bremer III, U.S. Civilian Administrator, Coalition Provisional Authority, addresses graduates of the International Police Academy April 1.

Cpl. Benjamin Cossel, 122nd MPAD

BAGHDAD, Iraq – After completing eight physically and mentally demanding weeks of training, 479 men and women officially joined the Iraqi Police Service during a graduation ceremony at the Baghdad Police Academy April 1st.

This class was the second to graduate from the International Police Academy since the program's inception in December of 2003. So far, 945 academy graduates -- men and women -- have joined the ranks of the Iraqi Police Service.

"You, the men and women of the Iraqi Police, have chosen the side of civilization," said U.S. Ambassador L. Paul Bremer III, U.S. Civilian Administrator, Coalition Provisional Authority, addressing graduating class. "Within you and your colleagues, are the difficult answers to the shameful barbarians of Fallujah and Karbala and Najaf and Baghdad."

"You follow in the finest tradition of all humanity as you take up the task of protecting the innocent."

Instructors from Iraq, the United States, the United Kingdom, Canada, Sweden, Finland, Austria and

Jordan taught the basics of police paperwork, search techniques, sensitivity training and traffic control.

Special attention was given to human rights training. Officers are taught that they are civil servants; their primary job is to protect the people.

In addition to their police training, students were faced with cultural challenges. They had to learn how to work with members of different religious groups and members of the opposite sex. Members of the graduating class included Kurds, Sunni, and Shiite Muslims.

"We must all come together as one if Iraq is to be a free democracy," said Col. Hussein Medi, Dean of the Academy.

Students spend the first four weeks of training learning the theory of police work and the last four weeks putting that theory into practical application.

Once they have graduated, officers spend two weeks in the Transition Integration Program working with current members of the IPS. Upon completion of those two weeks, they will be given orders assigning them to their permanent assignments within the Baghdad Police Department.

"You have chosen a dangerous and difficult path," Medi said, "You are to be commended. I am proud of you, all of Iraq is proud of you and we will stand with you as we continue on to a safe and meaningful freedom."

Working for the IPS has become one of the most dangerous occupations in Iraq because officers have become the preferred target of insurgents, Medi said.

Falling under the Ministry of Interior, the current IPS force contains 67,000 officers. It is the goal of the academy to graduate 32,000 officers by Jan. 2005, said Master Sgt. Bill Saccente, academy operations non-commissioned officer, 415th Military Police Liaison Detachment.

"You, the finest of the honorable majority of Iraqi's men and women have chosen to confront the evil doers, to carry the banner of civilization," Bremer said. "Your efforts and those of the millions of Iraqis who support you will make a difference."

The Old Ironsides Report April 6, 2004

NEWS...

Bush Committed to June Handover in Iraq

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP) - President Bush said Monday he is committed to the June 30 deadline for transferring power in Iraq and will not be deterred by violence and an armed Shiite revolt against the U.S.-led occupation. "The deadline remains firm," Bush told reporters.

Warrant Issued for Shiite Cleric's Arrest

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) - An Iraqi judge has issued a murder arrest warrant for a radical Shiite Muslim cleric, Muqtada al-Sadr, for the slaying of another Shiite leader shortly after the U.S.-led invasion of the country, coalition officials said Monday.

Coalition spokesman Dan Senor announced the warrant but would not say when al-Sadr would be detained. "There'll be no advance warning," he said.

U.S., Iraqi Soldiers Surround Fallujah

FALLUJAH, Iraq (AP) - Hundreds of U.S. and Iraqi troops in tanks, trucks and other vehicles surrounded the turbulent city of Fallujah on Monday ahead of a major operation against insurgents following the grisly slayings of four American security contractors last week.

Explosions and gunfire could be heard coming from the center of the city. Streets on the outskirts were largely deserted.

Terror Group Warns Spain of 'Inferno'

MADRID, Spain (AP) - Police patrolled subway and bus stations Monday in the Spanish capital, and a newspaper said an Islamic group that claimed responsibility for the March 11 bombings had threatened to turn Spain into "an inferno."

Court officials said two additional suspects were arrested Saturday in a Madrid suburb and the Spanish enclave of Ceuta on the Moroccan coast in connection with the commuter train attacks in which 191 people were killed.

Thought for the day...

Nelson's Prayer

Prayer of Vice Admiral Horatio Lord Nelson, (Off Cape Trafalgar, 21 October 1805) May the Great God, whom I worship, grant to my Country, and for the benefit of Europe in general, a great and glorious Victory; and may no misconduct in any one tarnish it; and may humanity after Victory be the predominant feature in the British Fleet.

For myself, individually, I commit my life to Him who made me, and may his blessing light upon my endeavors for serving my Country faithfully.

To Him I resign myself and the just cause which is entrusted to me to defend. Amen. Amen. Amen.

Musically missing...

Reverend Uses 'Simpsons' to Teach Gospel

By LINDSAY HOLMWOOD, Associated Press Writer

LONDON (AP) -- Thou shalt not have a cow. So says the gospel according to The Simpsons. America's famous dysfunctional cartoon family will be the subject of a series of evening classes by the Rev. Robin Spittle on the Christian message in the popular show.

"They are a churchgoing family and they make moral decisions, some of which I agree with, some of which I don't, but either way they are a great way to open up a discussion," said Spittle.

Churchgoers at All Saints Church in Kesgrave, northeast of London, have been invited to attend four classes from the end of April on each of the four main family members - Homer, Marge, Bart and Lisa.

Spittle says that each episode had Christian themes, even though Homer once described his religion as "you know, the one with all the well-meaning rules that don't work in real life. Uh, Christianity."

The reverend, 46, cited the temptation for Marge and Homer to have extramarital affairs as a recurring story line.

"Both Marge and Homer have found themselves being offered the opportunity to play away from home and they both turn them down," said Spittle. "Temptation, choices and doing what's right - you can't get much more of a Christian message than that."

The references to Christianity in the hit show have been widely discussed and were the subject of a 2001 book by Mark Pinsky called "The Gospel According to the Simpsons."

"They have a clever way of covering a lot of ground in a short space of time. Each 20-minute show gets a whole message across," said Spittle, who has previously held services in the local pub and used Hollywood films such as "Harry Potter" to teach the meaning of Easter.

The family values - or the apparent lack of them - in the Emmy-winning series were criticized when it first aired in the early 1990s. In 1992, former President George Bush said that American families should be "a lot more like the Waltons and a lot less like the Simpsons."

The show has long since silenced its harshest critics and gone on to become the longest running prime-time cartoon series.

The actors that give the voice to Homer's "D'oh!" and to Bart's "don't have a cow man" have been gaining attention again recently because of their demands for higher pay. According to the trade paper Daily Variety, each cast member is seeking about \$360,000 per episode.

TV Linked to Kids' Attention Problems

CHICAGO (AP) - Researchers have found that every hour preschoolers watch television each day boosts their chances - by about 10 percent - of developing attention deficit problems later in life. The findings back up previous research showing that television can shorten attention spans and support American Academy of Pediatrics recommendations that youngsters under age 2 not watch television.

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Today in History... **April 6, 1896: OLYMPIAD REBORN**

(HISTORYCHANNEL.COM) On April 6, 1896, the Olympic Games, a long-lost tradition of ancient Greece, are reborn in Athens 1,500 years after being banned by Roman Emperor Theodosius I. At the opening of the Athens Games, King Georgios I of Greece and a crowd of 60,000 spectators welcomed athletes from 13 nations to the international competition.

The first recorded Olympic Games were held at Olympia in the Greek city-state of Elis in 776 B.C., but it is generally accepted that the Olympics were at least 500 years old at that time. The ancient Olympics, held every four years, occurred during a religious festival honoring the Greek god Zeus. In the eighth century B.C., contestants came from a dozen or more Greek cities, and by the fifth century B.C. from as many as 100 cities from throughout the Greek empire. Initially, Olympic competition was limited to foot races, but later a number of other events were added, including wrestling, boxing, horse and chariot racing, and military competitions. The pentathlon, introduced in 708 B.C., consisted of a foot race, the long jump, discus and javelin throws, and wrestling. With the rise of Rome, the Olympics declined, and in 393 A.D. the Roman Emperor Theodosius I, a Christian, abolished the Games as part of his efforts to suppress paganism in the Roman Empire.

With the Renaissance, Europe began a long fascination with ancient Greek culture, and in the 18th and 19th centuries some nations staged informal sporting and folkloric festivals bearing the name "Olympic Games." However, it was not until 1892 that a young French baron, Pierre de Coubertin, seriously proposed reviving the Olympics as a major international competition that would occur every four years. At a conference on international sport in Paris in June 1894, Coubertin again raised the idea, and the 79 delegates from nine countries unanimously approved his proposal. The International Olympic Committee (IOC) was formed, and the first Games were planned for 1896 in Athens, the capital of Greece.

In Athens, 280 participants from 13 nations competed in 43 events, covering track-and-field, swimming, gymnastics, cycling, wrestling, weightlifting, fencing, shooting, and tennis. All the competitors were men, and a few of the entrants were tourists who stumbled upon the Games and were allowed to sign up. The track-and-field events were held at the Panathenaic Stadium, which was originally built in 330 B.C. and restored for the 1896 Games. Americans won nine out of 12 of these events. The 1896 Olympics also featured the first marathon competition, which followed the 25-mile route run by a Greek soldier who brought news of a victory over the Persians from Marathon to Athens in 490 B.C. In 1924, the marathon was standardized at 26 miles and 385 yards. Appropriately, a Greek, Spyridon Louis, won the first marathon at the 1896 Athens Games.



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The Old Ironsides Report

April 6, 2004

myafn.net TV SCHEDULES: TUESDAY, APRIL 06, 2004

As of: Tuesday, April 06, 2004 3:08:15 AM

Start Time	SPORTS	ATLANTIC	SPECTRUM	PACIFIC	NEWS	Start Time
00:00		HEADLINE NEWS	MONSTER GARAGE (TVPG): - RX-7/SANDRAIL	ESPNEWS: THE HOT LIST		00:00
00:30		TONIGHT SHOW WITH JAY LENO (TVPG):		HEADLINE NEWS	HEADLINE NEWS	00:30
01:00	AROUND THE HORN		HOLLOW MAN	TODAY	LESTER HOLT LIVE	01:00
01:30	PARDON THE INTERRUPTION	THE LATE SHOW WITH DAVID LETTERMAN (TVPG):				01:30
02:00	ESPNEWS				HEADLINE NEWS	02:00
02:30	ESPNEWS	ACCESS HOLLYWOOD			NBC NIGHTLY NEWS	02:30
03:00	MLB - SAN FRANCISCO GIANTS @ HOUSTON ASTROS	4 QTRS	THE WILD THORNBERRYS (TVY): - FLOOD WARNING	SESAME STREET	ABC WORLD NEWS TONIGHT	03:00
03:30		COLLEGE GAMENIGHT	THE FAIRLY ODDPARENTS		CBS EVENING NEWS	03:30
04:00			THE SIMPSONS (TVPG): - LISA THE GREEK	DRAGON TALES (TVY): - ROOM FOR CHANGE/ SORROW AND THE PARTY	COUNTDOWN WITH KEITH OLBERMANN	04:00
04:30			THE COSBY SHOW (TVG): - SAY HELLO TO A GOOD GUY	WHEEL OF FORTUNE (TVG):		04:30
05:00		MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL - NCAA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP: GEORGIA TECH VS UCONN	J.A.G. (TVPG): - A TANGLED WEBB (PT. 3)	MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL - NCAA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP: GEORGIA TECH VS UCONN	HANNITY & COLMES	05:00
06:00	BASEBALL TONIGHT		THE PRACTICE (TV14): - FIRE PROOF		THE NEWSHOUR	06:00
06:30	MLB - TEXAS RANGERS @ OAKLAND ATHLETICS					06:30
07:00			INSIDE THE ACTOR'S STUDIO (TVPG): - JOHN TRAVOLTA[120MINS]		BET NIGHTLY NEWS	07:00
07:30		ESPNEWS		JUDGE JUDY (TVPG):	NIGHTLY BUSINESS REPORT	07:30
08:00		HEADLINE NEWS		ACCESS HOLLYWOOD	LARRY KING LIVE	08:00
08:25				GUIDING LIGHT (TV14):		08:25
08:30		HEADLINE NEWS				08:30
09:00		SESAME STREET	INSPECTOR GADGET		NEWSNIGHT WITH AARON BROWN	09:00
09:13				GENERAL HOSPITAL (TV14):		09:13
09:30	ESPNEWS					09:30
10:00	SPORTSCENTER	DRAGON TALES (TVY): - ROOM FOR CHANGE/ SORROW AND THE PARTY		ARTHUR (TVY): - 1001 DADS/ PRUNELLA'S PREDICTION	PAULA ZAHN NOW	10:00
10:30		WHEEL OF FORTUNE (TVG):	EBERT & ROEPER AT THE MOVIES (TVPG):	DISNEY'S DOUG (TVY): - DOUG'S DREAM HOUSE		10:30
11:00	AFL - DALLAS DESPERADOS @ PHILADELPHIA SOUL	THE DR. PHIL SHOW (TVPG):	THE WILD THORNBERRYS (TVY): - FLOOD WARNING	LIZZIE MCGUIRE (TVG): - WHEN MOMS ATTACK	NIGHTLINE	11:00
11:30			THE FAIRLY ODDPARENTS	THE AMANDA SHOW	NAVY/MARINE CORPS NEWS	11:30
11:46		THE OPRAH WINFREY SHOW (TVPG):				11:46
12:00			THE SIMPSONS (TVPG): - LISA THE GREEK	JEOPARDY! (TVG):	HARDBALL WITH CHRIS MATTHEWS	12:00
12:30			THE COSBY SHOW (TVG): - SAY HELLO TO A GOOD GUY	HEADLINE NEWS		12:30
12:35		GUIDING LIGHT (TV14):				12:35
12:52				PACIFIC REPORT		12:52
13:00			J.A.G. (TVPG): - A TANGLED WEBB (PT. 3)	ESPNEWS	CNN DAYBREAK	13:00
13:17		GENERAL HOSPITAL (TV14):				13:17
13:30				HEADLINE NEWS		13:30
13:52				PACIFIC REPORT		13:52
14:00	SPORTSCENTER	HEADLINE NEWS	THE PRACTICE (TV14): - FIRE PROOF	SMALLVILLE (TVPG): - EXODUS (PT. 2)	THE O'REILLY FACTOR	14:00
14:30		JUDGE JUDY (TVPG):				14:30
15:00	MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL - NCAA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP: GEORGIA TECH VS UCONN	TODAY	INSIDE THE ACTOR'S STUDIO (TVPG): - JOHN TRAVOLTA[120MINS]	THE ROOKIE	GOOD MORNING AMERICA	15:00
17:00		ARTHUR (TVY): - 1001 DADS/ PRUNELLA'S PREDICTION	INSPECTOR GADGET		HEADLINE NEWS	17:00
17:15				HEADLINE NEWS		17:15
17:30	ESPNEWS	DISNEY'S DOUG (TVY): - DOUG'S DREAM HOUSE			CHANNEL ONE	17:30
17:37				PACIFIC REPORT		17:37
17:45				TONIGHT SHOW WITH JAY LENO (TVPG):	ABC WORLD NEWS THIS MORNING	17:45
18:00	SPORTS SPECIAL - MONSTER JAM	LIZZIE MCGUIRE (TVG): - WHEN MOMS ATTACK			THE EARLY SHOW	18:00
18:30		THE AMANDA SHOW	EBERT & ROEPER AT THE MOVIES (TVPG):			18:30
18:45				THE LATE SHOW WITH DAVID LETTERMAN (TVPG):		18:45
19:00	SPORTSCENTER	JEOPARDY! (TVG):	THE WILD THORNBERRYS (TVY): - FLOOD WARNING			19:00
19:30		HEADLINE NEWS	THE FAIRLY ODDPARENTS			19:30
19:45				ACCESS HOLLYWOOD		19:45
20:00	TOTALLY NASCAR	ESPNEWS	THE SIMPSONS (TVPG): - LISA THE GREEK		FOX NEWS LIVE	20:00
20:15				MIRACLE AT MIDNIGHT		20:15
20:30	PARDON THE INTERRUPTION	HEADLINE NEWS	THE COSBY SHOW (TVG): - SAY HELLO TO A GOOD GUY			20:30
21:00	MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL - NCAA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP: GEORGIA TECH VS UCONN	SMALLVILLE (TVPG): - EXODUS (PT. 2)	J.A.G. (TVPG): - A TANGLED WEBB (PT. 3)		FOX NEWS LIVE	21:00
22:00		THE ROOKIE	THE PRACTICE (TV14): - FIRE PROOF	DANGEROUS MINDS	FOX NEWS LIVE	22:00
23:00			INSIDE THE ACTOR'S STUDIO (TVPG): - JOHN TRAVOLTA[120MINS]		HEADLINE NEWS	23:00
23:30	THE HOT LIST				INSIDE POLITICS	23:30